

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims to have the status and content indicated in the following listing of claims, wherein any cancellation of claims is made *without prejudice*.

13. (currently amended) A method for determining ~~the~~ an end-of-charge moment ~~of~~ for a battery being ~~charges, charged, the method~~ comprising the steps of:

- periodically sampling an electrical parameter of the battery, said parameter being selected from the group consisting of the battery voltage and the charging current;
- ~~comparing~~ determining at each sampling the ~~changed~~ change in the value of said electrical parameter ~~relative to~~ compared with the value taken in the immediately previous period; and
- generating an end-of-charge ~~command for terminating the battery charging process~~ signal when said ~~changed~~ change in value lies ~~within~~ below a predetermined threshold level of change.

14. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said sampled electrical parameter is the battery voltage and the predetermined threshold level being is 1 mv or less than 1 mV.

15. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, comprising ~~the~~ an additional step of changing the time elapsed between two ~~subsequent~~ consecutive sampling moments to conform to the ~~actual~~ battery type and charging method.

16. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, comprising ~~the~~ an additional step of storing said changed values throughout a predetermined number of sampling periods and in said generating step issuing said end-of-charge ~~command~~ signal if during said predetermined number of sampling periods the majority of said stored changed values lie below said threshold level.

17. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the time elapsed between two subsequent sampling moments ~~being~~ is in the range of from a fraction of a minute ~~to~~ to a few ~~number of~~ minutes.

18. (new) The method as claimed in claim 13, comprising smoothing the electrical parameter sample to reduce noise, optionally high frequency noise, in the sample.

19. (new) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the end-of-charge signal comprises an end-of-charge command for terminating the battery charging process.

20. (new) The method as claimed in claim 19, comprising utilizing the end-of-charge command to terminate the battery charging process before a fully charged state is reached.

21. (new) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the detected change in value is at least two orders of magnitude smaller than the value of said electrical parameter.

22. (new) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the duration of each sampling is from 100 to 500 msecs.

23. (new) The method as claimed in claim 13 comprising selecting the time elapsed between two consecutive sampling moments to conform to the battery type and appropriate charging method, the elapsed time optionally being in the range of from 1 second to about 3 minutes wherein the detected change in value is at least two orders of magnitude smaller than the value of said electrical parameter, and wherein the end-of-charge signal comprises an end-of-charge command for terminating the battery charging process.